

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of reproducing an audio signal, comprising the steps of:

supplying an audio signal to a plurality of digital filters and producing a respective plurality of filtered signals;

generating a sound field inside closed space by supplying the plurality of filtered signals from the plurality of digital filters to a respective plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

~~supplying~~ focusing sounds outputted from the plurality of speakers of the speaker array to a location of a listener inside a sound field after being reflected by a wall surface of the closed space with a sound pressure greater than a sound pressure at a peripheral location in the closed space by setting predetermined respective delay times for said plurality of digital filters, respectively.

2. (previously presented) The method of reproducing an audio signal according to claim 1, wherein

the sound pressure directly arriving at said listener from said speaker array is reduced by setting predetermined respective amplitudes in said plurality of digital filters.

3. (currently amended) An apparatus for reproducing an audio signal, comprising:

a plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

a plurality of digital filters to which an audio signal is supplied for producing a plurality of filtered signals,

wherein a sound field is generated inside a closed space by supplying the plurality of filtered signals from said plurality of digital filters to said plurality of speakers, respectively; and

wherein sounds outputted from the plurality of speakers of the speaker array are focused at~~supplied to~~ a location of a listener inside the sound field after being reflected by a wall surface of the closed space with a sound pressure greater than a sound pressure at a peripheral location by setting predetermined respective delay times for said plurality of digital filters in the closed space.

4. (previously presented) The apparatus for reproducing an audio signal, according to claim 3, wherein

a sound pressure directly arriving at said listener from said speaker array is reduced by setting predetermined respective amplitudes in said plurality of digital filters.

5. (new) An apparatus for reproducing an audio signal in a desired space, said apparatus comprising:

a plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

a plurality of digital filters coupled directly or indirectly to a source and respectively to said plurality of speakers, said plurality of digital filters having filter coefficients associated therewith,

said plurality of digital filters being operable to receive an audio signal from said source and to produce therefrom a plurality of filtered signals and to supply said plurality of filtered signals or signals corresponding thereto to said plurality of speakers so as to cause a sound field to be generated therefrom in the desired space, and

said filter coefficients having values such that sounds outputted from the plurality of speakers of the speaker array are focused at a location of a listener inside the desired space after being reflected by a wall surface of the desired space with a sound pressure greater than a sound pressure at a peripheral location.